

# PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To:  
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1925 CENTURY PARK EAST, SUITE 500  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90067

## PCT

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL OF  
THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT AND  
THE WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL  
SEARCHING AUTHORITY, OR THE DECLARATION

(PCT Rule 44.1)

Applicant's or agent's file reference STPCT04	Date of mailing (day/month/year) <b>10 FEB 2005</b>
International application No. PCT/US04/21435	International filing date (day/month/year) 02 July 2004 (02.07.2004)
Applicant SPONGETECH, INC.	

1. ☒ The applicant is hereby notified that the international search report and the written opinion of the International Searching Authority have been established and are transmitted herewith.  
  
**Filing of amendments and statement under Article 19:**  
 The applicant is entitled, if he so wishes, to amend the claims of the international application (see Rule 46):  
  
**When?** The time limit for filing such amendments is normally two months from the date of transmittal of the international search report.  
  
**Where?** Directly to the International Bureau of WIPO, 34 chemin des Colombettes  
 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland, Facsimile No.: +41 22 740 14 35  
  
**For more detailed instructions, see the notes on the accompanying sheet.**
2. ☐ The applicant is hereby notified that no international search report will be established and that the declaration under Article 17(2)(a) to that effect and the written opinion of the International Searching Authority are transmitted herewith.
3. ☐ With regard to the protest against payment of (an) additional fee(s) under Rule 40.2, the applicant is notified that:
  - ☐ the protest together with the decision thereon has been transmitted to the International Bureau together with the applicant's request to forward the texts of both the protest and the decision thereon to the designated Offices.
  - ☐ no decision has been made yet on the protest; the applicant will be notified as soon as a decision is made.

**4. Reminders**


Shortly after the expiration of **18 months** from the priority date, the international application will be published by the International Bureau. If the applicant wishes to avoid or postpone publication, a notice of withdrawal of the international application, or of the priority claim, must reach the International Bureau as provided in Rules 90bis.1 and 90bis.3, respectively, before the completion of the technical preparations for international publication.

The applicant may submit comments on an informal basis on the written opinion of the International Searching Authority to the International Bureau. The International Bureau will send a copy of such comments to all designated Offices unless an international preliminary examination report has been or is to be established. These comments would also be made available to the public but not before the expiration of 30 months from the priority date.

Within **19 months** from the priority date, but only in respect of some designated Offices, a demand for international preliminary examination must be filed if the applicant wishes to postpone the entry into the national phase until **30 months** from the priority date (in some Offices even later); otherwise, the applicant must, within **20 months** from the priority date, perform the prescribed acts for entry into the national phase before those designated Offices.

In respect of other designated Offices, the time limit of **30 months** (or later) will apply even if no demand is filed within 19 months.

See the Annex to Form PCT/IB/301 and, for details about the applicable time limits, Office by Office, see the *PCT Applicant's Guide*, Volume II, National Chapters and the WIPO Internet site.

Name and mailing address of the ISA/ US Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230	Authorized officer Randall Chin  Telephone No. (571) 272-1700
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# PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

## PCT

### INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference STPCT04	<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b>	see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.
International application No. PCT/US04/21435	International filing date ( <i>day/month/year</i> ) 02 July 2004 (02.07.2004)	(Earliest) Priority Date ( <i>day/month/year</i> ) 03 July 2003 (03.07.2003)
Applicant SPONGETECH, INC.		

This international search report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This international search report consists of a total of 14 sheets.



It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

**1. Basis of the Report**

a. With regard to the language, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.



the international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

b. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:



contained in the international application in written form.



filed together with the international application in computer readable form.



furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.



furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.



the statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.



the statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

2. ☐ Certain claims were found unsearchable (See Box I).

3. ☒ Unity of invention is lacking (See Box II).

4. With regard to the title,



the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.



the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the abstract,



the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.



the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. The figure of the drawings to be published with the abstract is Figure No. 1A



as suggested by the applicant.



because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.



because this figure better characterizes the invention.



None of the figures

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US04/21435

## Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of Item 1 of first sheet)

This international report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claim Nos.:  
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☐ Claim Nos.:  
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claim Nos.:  
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

## Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of Item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:  
Please See Continuation Sheet

1. ☒ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

☐  
☐

The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.

No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US04/21435

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : A47K 7/03; A47L 13/17

US CL : 15/104.93; 427/402, 417, 430.1; 118/44, 100, 302, 304, 324, 407, 408, 410, 423

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 15/104.93; 427/402, 417, 430.1; 118/44, 100, 302, 304, 324, 407, 408, 410, 423

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X ---	US 2,320,858 A (FIELD) 01 June 1943, see entire document.	40,43-49,54,57-60,63,64,66,67
Y		50,87,88,90,91
Y	US 3,094,735 A (HANLON) 25 June 1963, see entire document.	71-73,75,76
X ---	US 5,955,417 A (TAYLOR) 21 September 1999, see entire document.	1,2,22,29,40,42-45,51-55,77,78,80-83,85,86
Y		3-19,23-28,30-39,41,56,62,71-73,75,76
Y	US 5,960,506 A (REUVEN) 05 October 1999, see entire document.	33,34,37

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☐ See patent family annex.

\* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

26 January 2005 (26.01.2005)

Date of mailing of the international search report

10 FEB 2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US

Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230

Authorized officer

Randall Chin

Telephone No. (571) 272-1700

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/US04/21435

## BOX II. OBSERVATIONS WHERE UNITY OF INVENTION IS LACKING

- I. Claims 1-39 and 54, drawn to an apparatus.
- II. Claims 40-53 and 55-62, drawn to a method.
- III. Claims 63-91, drawn to a manufacturing apparatus.

The inventions listed as Groups I, II and III do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons: Group I is drawn to a cleansing device, Group II is drawn to a method of manufacturing a cleansing device, and Group III is drawn to an apparatus for manufacturing a cleansing device. Unity of invention does not exist because there is no technical relationship among the claimed inventions which involve one or more same or corresponding special technical features. Furthermore, claim 1 in the invention of Group I is not deemed to define any special technical feature as merely a web of fibers and a solid cleansing agent distributed substantially throughout the substrate to be used in conjunction with a solvent is being claimed and is not deemed to define any "special technical feature" defining a contribution over the prior art. Claim 1, for example, merely exemplifies a Brillo pad.